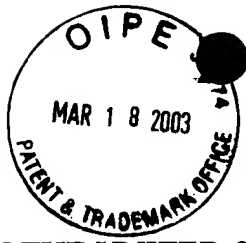


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Harald SEIDL et al.

Group Art Unit : 2814

Appln. No. : 09/899,189

Examiner: H. V. Pham

Filed : July 6, 2001

For : TRENCH CAPACITOR ISOLATION COLLAR AND
CORRESPONDING METHOD OF PRODUCTION

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir :

In response to the Official Action of December 18, 2002, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on March 18, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and objections, as well as an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application.

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J. Peters